

Message Text

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73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 SCEM-02 INT-08

FPC-01 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-15 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /130 W

----- 072941

R 281331Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9263

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1557

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, ZA, CG, RH

SUBJ: ENERGY: SHABA ELECTRIC POWER

REF: (A) LUBUMBASHI'S A-25 (B) LUBUMBASHI 300 (NOTAL)

1. EMB CONCURS THRUST REPAIR AND WOULD ADD FOLLOWING
AMPLIFYING COMMENT FROM ZAMBIAN VIEWPOINT.

2. PARA 7 - ZAMBIA'S PRESENT INTERNATIONAL GRID POWER COMES
FROM VICTORIA FALLS AS WELL AS KAFUE AND KARIBA SOUTH,
ASSUMING NORMAL RAINFALL. IF RAINFALL BELOW NORMAL, ZAMBIA
WOULD HAVE NO POWER FOR EXPORT. ZAMBIA SUPPLIES WESTERN RHODESIA,
INCLUDING WANKIE COAL FIELDS, FROM VICTORIA FALLS, GIVING IT
LEVERAGE TO DISCOURAGE POSSIBLE RHODESIAN CUT-OFF OF
KARIBA SOUTH POWER TO ZAMBIA.

3. PAR 8 - ZAMBIAN ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORP (ZESCO) GIVING NO
RPT NO SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO EIGHT-FEET RISE; ZAMBIA NOT RPT
NOT PREPARED COPE WITH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEM INVOLVED
IN SUCH EXTENSIVE FLOODING.

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4. FIGURE OF 1,200 MILLION KWH (INCREASE FROM FOUR-FOOT

KAFUE CATCHMENT MENTIONED REF (B) PUZZLES ZESCO CHIEF
ENGINEER. ACCORDING HIS FIGURES, KAFUE OUTPUT NOW RUNNING
ABOUT 1,320 MILLION KWH PER YEAR. ASSUMING NORMAL
RAINFALL NEXT RAINY SEASON (APPROX NOV - MARCH), TOTAL
CAPACITY OF KAFUE WITH CATCHMENT WOULD BE 4,000 MILLION
KWH WITH HIGHER MONTHLY AVERAGE DURING FIRST HALF OF YEAR.
IF THIS REASONABLY ACCURATE, APPEARS ZAMBIA WOULD BE ABLE
PROVIDE HALF SHABA POWER DEFICIT (300 MILLION KWH) FOR
1974 EVEN WITH SLIGHTLY SUBPAR RAINY SEASON, AND MIGHT
DO BETTER. SEEMS ZESCO PLAYING ITS CARDS VERY CLOSE TO
VEST IN ZAIRE NEGOTIATIONS -- PLEASE PROTECT ABOVE FIGURES.
IF CONSIDERED USEFUL AND LUBUMBASHI CAN SUPPLY MORE
DETAILED DATA ON GECAMINES FIGURE, EMB WILL PURSUE
MATTER ON A NONATTRIBUTABLE BASIS WITH ZESCO.NELSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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